

Two Unusual Massachusetts Records.— On October 20, 1910, Mr. T. C. Wilson, of Ipswich, brought me a young male Clapper Rail (*Rallus crepitans crepitans*). It was shot in the salt marshes of that town near the Poor Farm, and was a young bird of this season. This seems to be the second authentic Massachusetts record.

Three Spoonbill Ducks (*Spatula clypeata*) came into Wenham Lake, Massachusetts, on October 15, 1910. I secured all of them. There are only two other records of this duck at Wenham from 1899 until the present date. All three specimens were males.— J. C. PHILLIPS, *Wenham, Mass.*

Old Records for Massachusetts and Rhode Island.— In looking over my note books recently I came across a few entries which seem to me sufficiently interesting to record in 'The Auk,' and which may possibly be of use for future reference.

Nantucket Island, Massachusetts. While out shooting at the western part of the island a number of years ago, I heard a shot close at hand, and on driving up I found Mr. Escheveria (a regular summer resident) standing near the shore of the Reedy Pond. I found he had just killed a Long-billed Curlew (*Numenius longirostris*). I carefully examined the bird, which he offered to give me, but which I declined. In all the years I have been shooting on the island this is the only authentic instance that I am aware of that it has been taken here, and I therefore desire to record it. I regret now that I did not make a note of the date of capture. It was, however, in August or September.

November 5, 1875. Shot one Pintail Duck (*Dafila acuta*).

October 4, 1877. Shot two Red-backed Sandpipers (*Pisobia alpina sakhalina*).

September 23, 1878. Two Passenger Pigeons (*Ectopistes migratorius*), in immature plumage, on the outskirts of Siasconset Village.

August 31, 1889. Shot one Red-headed Woodpecker (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*), in immature plumage, apparently born on the island. September 23 saw a young bird, on November 23, saw another, and on September 10, 1881, shot one.

October 2, 1880. Saw six Wood Ducks (*Aix sponsa*) in the north head of the Hummock Pond and shot three of them; they were not in full plumage.

February 22, 1891. Saw five or six Meadowlarks (*Sturnella magna*).

August 25, 1884. Shot one Marbled Godwit (*Limosa fedoa*), the only one I have heard of there.

August 19, 1888. Saw two Willet (*Catoptrophorus semipalmatus*). I have seen several others, but have not the dates.

August 21, 1892. Shot one Hudsonian Godwit (*Limosa hæmastica*); had some red feathers on the breast.

February 21, 1892. We shot a Loon (*Gavia immer*) to-day from the Jetty, which had scarcely any feathers on the wings; the bird could not possibly have flown. I took it to be a case of moult.

Muskeget Island, Massachusetts, March 11, 1894. Six Sanderlings (*Calidris leucophaea*) have lived in the vicinity the past winter.

Somerville, Massachusetts, March 20, 1840, and Revere, Mass., March 6, 1880. On each of these dates Mr. George A. Tapley of Revere, Mass., shot an American Golden Plover (*Charadrius dominicus*). Mr. Tapley informed me he had killed one other in the spring.

Revere, Mass., May, 1889. Mr. George A. Tapley saw six Pectoral Sandpipers (*Pisobia maculata*), in one flock, and shot one of them; May, 1890, he saw two and shot both.

Wellfleet, Cape Cod, Mass., August, 1865. Shot two Marbled Godwits (*Limosa fedoa*).

West Island, Seconnet Point, Rhode Island, May, 1873. In the early part of this month, three Hudsonian Godwits (*Limosa hæmastica*), all there were. They alighted on the end of a gravel spit which was exposed at low tide on the north side of the island near the boat house. I secured all three at the first shot. They were in the gray plumage.

West Island, Seconnet Point, R. I., April 27, 1875. Shot one Red-throated Loon (*Gavia stellata*), April 16, 1878. A good many flying on migration; wind light northeast. Shot one on April 1, 1881; one on April 13, 1884; three on April 14, 1886; one on April 15 and four on April 20, 1887; one April 21, 1887, and April 16, 1892. A migrating movement eastward; birds flying about sixty yards high; noted one flock of five, one of six, the others scattering, about twenty-six birds in all. April 17, 1892, saw eight flying on migration; wind light west.

April 14, 1886. Quite a flight of Loons (*Gavia immer*), on migration; wind east, a gentle breeze.—GEORGE H. MACKAY, *Nantucket, Mass.*

Massachusetts Notes.—On October 24, 1910, I shot a partial albino Sharp-tailed Sparrow (*Passerherbulus caudacutus*) on a salt meadow at Nantucket, Mass. I had seen it several days previous but was unable to secure it then. The upper parts are blotched with several patches of pure white feathers. The coverts of the left wing are also pure white while the feathers on the right wing are only margined with white. The tail, crown and primaries are normal in color as are also the underparts and nearly all the rest of the bird.

Early in November, 1909, two White-fronted Geese (*Anser albifrons gambeli*) were shot at a stand on Sesachacha Pond, Nantucket. I heard of their being killed last spring and was told by the man who had one of them mounted that they were Lesser Snow Geese. However, this bird has recently been presented to the Boston Society of Natural History and has proved to be *Anser albifrons gambeli*. It is a young bird and the white at the base of the bill is only just beginning to appear. Also the tips of the feathers of the underparts show faint traces of black. There are only three other records for New England, and these are all from Massachusetts. A male was shot at Quincy some time about 1848-50